



CITY OF ORLAND STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: July 21, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Olivia Esquivel, Recreation Manager

SUBJECT: Turf Tank Robotic Field Painter

BACKGROUND:

During the FY 2026–2027 budget process, the Recreation Department included funding for the purchase of a Turf Tank robotic field painter. The Turf Tank is an automated GPS-guided line-marking system designed to accurately paint athletic fields with minimal staff involvement.

As a department operating with a single full-time staff member, it is essential to maximize efficiency while continuing to provide high-quality recreational programs and maintain City facilities. Athletic field preparation is one of the most time-intensive recurring maintenance tasks, requiring significant labor to initially measure and lay out fields and additional staff hours each week to repaint lines throughout the season.

ANALYSIS:

The Turf Tank will significantly improve the Recreation Department's efficiency by automating the field layout and line painting process. Once athletic field templates are created, the system can accurately paint regulation-compliant fields with minimal staff oversight, eliminating the need for repeated measuring, stringing, and manual layout.

The Recreation Department currently spends approximately **120 hours annually** preparing and repainting athletic fields. Implementation of the Turf Tank is expected to reduce that time to **less than 20 hours annually**—an **83% reduction**, allowing roughly **100 staff hours each year** to be redirected toward higher priority responsibilities.

Those time savings will allow staff to focus on program administration, planning and development, improving departmental operations, supporting participants and volunteers, and meeting the growing customer service needs of the community. Rather than increasing staffing levels to meet growing program demands, the Recreation Department is leveraging technology to expand staff capacity within existing resources.

In addition, the Turf Tank's GPS-guided technology will produce consistently accurate, professional-quality field markings while reducing paint waste and providing a uniform

appearance across the City's athletic facilities. The three-year subscription also includes software updates, training, technical support, warranty coverage, and an annual paint allotment, ensuring the department has ongoing access to current technology and support throughout the term of the agreement.

Given the Recreation Department's limited staffing resources and the increasing demand for youth sports programming, this technology represents an investment in operational efficiency that will provide long-term labor savings and improve the department's ability to deliver quality services to the community.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute a three-year subscription agreement with Turf Tank for one Turf Tank Lite robotic field painting system and authorize all documents necessary to implement the agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT OF RECOMMENDATION:

The proposed agreement is a three-year subscription with an annual cost of \$7,500, for a total contract value of \$22,500, plus a one-time implementation fee of \$1,700. Funding for the first-year subscription and implementation fee was included in the Recreation Department's approved FY 2026–2027 budget. Future annual subscription payments will be included in the department's annual operating budget.

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